

RESILIENT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

SLAUGHTER BEACH DELAWARE COASTAL PROGRAMS

The Delaware Coastal Programs and the Resilient Community Partnership

Many communities throughout Delaware are threatened by inland flooding, coastal storms, sea level rise, and changing climate conditions. To help address these challenges, the Delaware Coastal Programs (DCP) initiated the Resilient Community Partnership, an annual program that leverages federal funding provided by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to help Delaware communities improve their planning and preparation capabilities for responding to coastal hazards.

The first iteration of this partnership is with the Town of Slaughter Beach. The DCP provided direct staffing, technical support, public outreach and training to support the community's vulnerability assessment, prioritization, planning, and identification of adaptation and mitigation practices.

Delaware Coastal Programs improves local capacity to conserve and wisely manage coastal resources and supports the integration of coastal management principles through local planning and implementation activities.

For more information about this project, contact Danielle Swallow, DCP at: danielle.swallow@state.de.us

<http://de.gov/coastal>

SLAUGHTER
Beach
DELAWARE

DELAWARE COASTAL
PROGRAMS
DCMP



PREPARING FOR HAZARDS TODAY - PLANNING FOR RISKS TOMORROW

Slaughter Beach, like other low-lying Delaware Bayfront communities, is vulnerable to natural hazards from multiple sources. It currently experiences flooding during high tides and is also subject to extreme flooding events from coastal storms. In addition, due to rising sea levels and temperatures, the community will experience more impacts in the future. The RCP project produced a comprehensive assessment of risks to this community, identified adaptation and mitigation recommendations, and helped to fund implementation of projects that enhance community resiliency.



WORKING TOGETHER FOR A SAFE AND RESILIENT COMMUNITY IN THE TOWN OF SLAUGHTER BEACH

Beginning in the spring of 2016, the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control's Delaware Coastal Programs (DCP) office partnered with the Town of Slaughter Beach to carry out a comprehensive assessment of risks to the community from coastal storms, sea level rise and extreme tides. In addition, risks from higher temperatures due to climate change were also examined. This assessment produced adaptation and mitigation strategies, that if implemented, will help Slaughter Beach better prepare for and bounce back from these hazardous events. Through collaboration with DNREC, DelDOT, the University of Delaware, and other partners, the Town is moving forward on the implementation of key recommendations.





MOVING TOWARDS RESILIENCE

STEPS TAKEN

The process of developing a more resilient community in the Town of Slaughter Beach involved an assessment of the Town's current vulnerability to natural hazards and how climate related issues may impact the community in the future. Following this inventory, identification of adaptation and implementation strategies were developed. Public participation was encouraged throughout the process. Through a community wide survey, focus groups, and three public workshops, residents and stakeholders had the opportunity to contribute input and brainstorm strategies that address and prepare for risks.

SELECTED PROJECT RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Real-Time Transportation Warning System** - Integrate into the state's real-time transportation monitoring system so that residents and visitors are alerted of flooding (see side-bar);
- **Community Preparedness Education & Outreach** - Promote outreach and education on emergency preparedness and resiliency to hazards such as flooding and extreme heat; Schedule an annual Community Preparedness Day;
- **Secure Utility Tanks to the Ground** - Promote public safety by working with homeowners and utility companies to secure propane tanks and other utility tanks to the ground;
- **Beach Nourishment** - Invest in small-scale beach nourishment projects to address critically eroded locations; Continue dialogue with federal and state partners regarding large-scale beach nourishment and the beneficial reuse of dredge spoils; explore alternate revenue sources of Town match for beach nourishment;
- **Community Wide Emergency Plan** - Coordinate with County, DEMA, and Fire Company; Form community workgroup to update and refine emergency planning content on website;
- **Elevate Homes and Utilities** - Raise a/c units, generators, and the lower level of existing and new houses and structures above FEMA's base flood elevation by an additional 18 inches or more.

REAL TIME WARNING SYSTEM

To be installed Fall 2017:

FLOOD WARNING SIGN

Signage placed on Cedar Beach and Slaughter Beach Roads will alert drivers of when flooding occurs in real time. This warning system will improve public safety and equip residents with up to date information to inform their route planning.



DELDOT APP

With the incorporation of Slaughter Beach Road and Cedar Beach Road into the state's real time transportation system, residents and visitors can **check the DelDOT app on their smartphone** to be alerted to any flood conditions on the roadways. This collaboration with DelDot also **includes the usage of the 1380AM radio station to hear news updates of flooding of road conditions.**



For more information about the Resilient Community Project, please visit our website at:
<http://de.gov/resilientcommunity>